Lagayat, 31, Highway and Karate lying on the right bank of the river Teesta in West Bengal faced danger due to severe bank erosion. Flood Management being the State subject, the State Government of West Bengal has prepared requisite flood protection schemes for protection of the affected villages/areas amounting to Rs. 1720.33 lakh and submitted to Brahmaputra Board.

Declining in flow of river water

†887. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flow of water is declining in Indian rivers due to climate change; and

(b) whether Government is taking any measure to augment this important source of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The analysis of the average annual flow data of major rivers in the country does not indicate any significant decreasing trend.

(b) With a view to augment the water resources for utilization for various purposes, several measures are undertaken by respective State Governments which, *inter-alia*, include conservation of water resources through reservoir, traditional water bodies, rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water.

Protection of sea erosion

888. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of State Government of Gujarat for protection of sea erosion pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) The Government of Gujarat had initially submitted a proposal indicating the requirement of funds for Anti-Sea Erosion works amounting to Rs. 530.20 cr to Central Water Commission (CWC) in July' 2008 for external assistance under the 'National Coastal Protection Project'. The proposal was examined and comments were offered by CWC to the Government of Gujarat suggesting necessary modifications. In the meantime, anti-sea erosion schemes amounting to Rs. 50.45 crore were submitted by the State Government to Central Water Commission for techno-economic examination and for consideration under Flood Management Programme – a State sector scheme approved during Eleventh Plan by the Cabinet. Out of the 10 schemes, one scheme has been cleared by CWC and sent to the Planning Commission

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.